

REMARKS

New claims 33-39 added in the Response dated November 17, 2004 read on the four subgroups of species identified in the Supplemental Restriction Requirement dated January 28, 2004 as set forth below.

Subgroup 1: Species of Hapten

Applicants elected cardenolide-glycosides. Independent claims 33 and 34 and dependent claims 35-39 read on this species.

Subgroup 2: Species of Immunologically Reactive Peptide Epitopes

Applicants elected immunologically reactive peptide epitopes having a length of up to 30 amino acids derived from viruses. Independent claims 33 and 34 and dependent claims 35-37 read on this species.

Subgroup 3: Species of Marker Group

Applicants elected luminescent metal chelates. Independent claims 33 and 34 and dependent claims 35-39 read on this species.


Subgroup 4: Species of Solid Phase Binding Group

Applicants elected biotin. Independent claims 33 and 34 and dependent claims 35-39 read on this species.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Early notification to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that a discussion would be helpful to expedite prosecution of the above-identified patent application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned agent directly at (312)-321-4257.

Respectfully submitted,



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